

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 199

Introduced by Assembly Member Bonta

June 21, 2016

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 199—Relative to Obesity Awareness Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 199, as introduced, Bonta. Obesity Awareness Month.

This measure would annually proclaim the month of November as Obesity Awareness Month in California.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Obesity is recognized as a national epidemic and
2 each state must seek out all necessary means to fight it; and
3 WHEREAS, More than one-third of adults in the United States
4 (34.9 percent), or approximately 111 million Americans, are obese;
5 and
6 WHEREAS, In California, nearly 60 percent of adults are
7 considered overweight or obese and one in four are obese; and
8 WHEREAS, Minorities in California are disproportionately
9 affected by obesity, with approximately 34.7 percent of African
10 Americans and 31.7 percent of Latinos considered obese; and
11 WHEREAS, Those without economic means are
12 disproportionately affected by obesity; 33 percent of those with
13 incomes of \$15,000 per year or less are obese, compared with 24.6
14 percent of those who make at least \$50,000 per year, while 33
15 percent of those not graduating high school are obese compared

1 to 21.5 percent of those who graduated college or technical college;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Obesity has been linked to many comorbidities
4 and chronic diseases, with the six most common and most costly
5 being type II diabetes, cardiovascular disease, hypertension, stroke,
6 arthritis, and certain types of cancer; and

7 WHEREAS, Obesity is one of the largest drivers of health care
8 costs, with estimates ranging from \$147 billion to \$210 billion in
9 annual medically related costs as of 2012; and

10 WHEREAS, The State of California paid approximately \$1.3
11 billion in obesity-related costs in Medi-Cal in 2013, and annual
12 costs of severe obesity cost \$9.1 billion in overall health care costs
13 in 2013; and

14 WHEREAS, The estimated medically related costs of adult
15 obesity are expected to rise to \$620 billion annually by 2030; and

16 WHEREAS, Obesity-related job absenteeism costs United
17 States' employers at least \$4.3 billion annually, taking a toll on
18 the economy; and

19 WHEREAS, Almost every state that demonstrates a 5-percent
20 decrease in average body mass index will experience an
21 approximate 6.5 percent to 7.9 percent reduction in overall health
22 care costs over the next 5 to 10 years; and

23 WHEREAS, The American Medical Association (AMA) has
24 now recognized obesity as a chronic disease requiring a range of
25 medical interventions to advance obesity treatment and prevention,
26 and health professionals from a large and growing number of other
27 professional medical societies have signaled their support for the
28 AMA's decision to recognize obesity as a disease; and

29 WHEREAS, Significant innovations in treatment and medical
30 interventions, including pharmacotherapy and other medical
31 interventions, have been approved for the medical community in
32 recent years; now, therefore, be it

33 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
34 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature proclaims the month of
35 November 2016 and each year thereafter as Obesity Awareness
36 Month in California; and be it further

37 *Resolved*, That the Legislature supports policies to reduce obesity
38 in California and the costs associated with the disease; and be it
39 further

- 1 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
- 2 to the author for appropriate distribution.

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